

Nederland, Tx 8/21/49

Oak Grove, La. 4/1/51

Trouce, Tx 1/11/60

Vidor, Tx 2/25/68 12/28/75
~~12/28/75~~

Unity In Christ

INTRO:

1. Jn 17:20, 21

2. God has always expected unity

3. Christ prayed for it, that all believers may be one.

This prayer is still in effect, still His plea.

4. The perfect pattern is found between God & Christ (vs 11)

5. We are not left to guess what unity - UNITY IN CHRIST

6. Eph 4:1-6 UNITY OF SPIRIT

7. We need to stress unity, strive for it, work for it.

I. ONE GOD - UNITY OF WORSHIP - Jn 4:24; Jn 17:3

1. Jn 8:41 - "One Father, even God."

2. Jn 4:24 - Spirit & Truth

3. One God has given one arrangement for worship

4. Is unity to be found in worship today? SO MANY DIFFERENT THINGS BEING DONE

II. ONE LORD - UNITY OF AUTHORITY

1. 1 Cor 1:13 - "Is Christ divided?"

2. Mt 23:8 - "For one is your teacher."

3. Mt 28:18 - "All authority hath been given to me."

4. Many today worship different authorities - men, idols, etc.

III. ONE BODY - UNITY OF ORGANIZATION

1. Acts 4:32 - "Those who believed were of one heart"

2. 1 Cor 12:20 - "Many members, but one Body" (CHURCH)

3. TODAY - MANY religious organizations, all claiming to be correct, yet all different in organization.

IV. ONE SPIRIT - UNITY OF LIFE

1. Eph 6:17 - "Sword of the spirit - word of God"

2. Heb 4:12 - "word is living, active, sharp as sword."

3. 1 Pet 2:2 - Same food, growth

4. Same same sword.

Eph 4:1-6

I. ONE FAITH - UNITY OF TEACHING

1. Jude 3 - "contend earnestly for faith once for all delivered."

2. Gal 1:8 - "though we are angel preach any other gospel."

3. Mt 15:9 - In vain - teaching doctrines of men.

4. Is there unity of teaching ??? - creeds, disciplines

VI. ONE BAPTISM - UNITY OF PRACTICE

1. Rom 6:3-4 "All we who were baptized into Christ"

2. BURIAL - PLANTED - RAISED -

3. NOTE - Most say we differ with you, but you are all right. - WHY THEN if we are all right do ~~you~~ not all come over and be with us?

4. Almost any viewpoint one desires can be found in the religious world here - Is this right? Does God approve

III. ONE HOPE - UNITY OF PURPOSE

1. 1 Pet 1:3-5 - "Inheritance that fadeth not away."

2. Almost ALL have desire for eternal life, but FEW are preparing for it.

3. This hope made possible because of what has been done by ONE GOD, ONE CHRIST, ONE SPIRIT

4. Jn 15:1-6 - ONE VINE, same fruit.

CONCLUSION

1. Plea for UNITY.

2. 1 Cor 1:10 - no division among you

3. All redeemed by SAME BLOOD

4. Will be no divisions in heaven.

Should not be here.

5. 1 Pet 3:11 Behold how good & how

6. Rom 6:5 - Planted together, raised together, walk together, united, caught up to heaven.